

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 01543 01 OF 02 270032Z
ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 PM-03 INR-05 CIAE-00 SP-02 L-01

ACDA-10 TRSE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 /049 W

-----270057Z 058013 /63

R 261833Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5080

INFO USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

SECDEF WASHDC

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 01543

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, MILI, AWACS, OCON, GW

SUBJECT: NATO AEW - FRG POSITION

REFS: (A) USNATO 0366 DTG 211813Z JAN 77

(B) BONN 18767 DTG 051712Z NOV 76

(C) BONN 1204 DTG 201729Z JAN 77

(D) BONN 1308 DTG 211815Z JAN 77

(E) BONN 00372 DTG 071701Z JAN 77

BEGIN SUMMARY: FRG DEFENSE ADVISER SCHUENEMANN'S
REMARKS CONCERNING THE FRG POSITION ON NATO AWACS (REF
A) GENERALLY CONFIRM PREVIOUS REPORTING. WE DO NOT,
HOWEVER, AGREE WITH HIS STATEMENT THAT BONN SUPPORTERS
OF AWACS CONSIDER THAT SYSTEM TO BE PRIMARILY OF VALUE
ON NATO'S FLANKS. END SUMMARY.

1. GERMAN DEFENSE MINISTRY SOURCES WITH WHOM WE HAVE
SPOKEN CONSIDER AWACS USE ON THE FLANKS TO BE A BONUS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BONN 01543 01 OF 02 270032Z

OVER AND ABOVE ITS BASIC RAISON D'ETRE: SERVICE ON THE
CENTRAL FRONT. WE BELIEVE GENERAL SCHUENEMANN IS OTHER-
WISE CORRECT IN HIS ANALYSIS OF THE FRG POSITION CON-
CERNING NATO AWACS AND HAVE SO REPORTED IN THE PAST.

2. WITHIN THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF DEFENSE (FMOD), THE
THREE MILITARY SERVICES ARE IN THE OPPOSITION CORNER;

MORE PRECISELY, THEY ARE OPPOSED TO THE FRG'S PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM PARTLY BECAUSE OF DOUBTS CONCERNING ITS COST-EFFECTIVENESS BUT MORE PARTICULARLY BECAUSE THEY ARE CONVINCED THAT FRG PARTICIPATION WOULD MEAN THE CANCELLATION AND STRETCH-OUT OF OTHER GERMAN MILITARY EXPENDITURES TO WHICH THEY GIVE A HIGHER PRIORITY. SUPPORT FOR THE PROGRAM WITHIN THE FMOD IS CONCENTRATED IN THE JOINT STAFF AND ESPECIALLY AMONG THE CIVILIAN LEADERSHIP.

3. MINISTER LEBER IS, AS WE HAVE SAID, BASICALLY IN FAVOR OF A NATO AWACS PROGRAM. HIS REASONS FOR BEING SO ARE IN PART MILITARY (I.E., HE BELIEVES THE SYSTEM WOULD IMPROVE NATO DEFENSES) AND IN PART POLITICAL. IN THIS LATTER CONNECTION, HE NOT ONLY SEES THAT AWACS WOULD BE AN INTEGRATIVE FORCE FOR THE NATO ALLIANCE, HE ALSO DOES NOT WANT THE FRG TO BE SEEN AS THE COUNTRY WHICH KILLS THE PROGRAM. GERMAN DEFENSE MINISTERS ARE CAREFUL TO KEEP THEIR FENCES WITH THE UNITED STATES WELL MENDED AND LEBER IS NO EXCEPTION.

4. WHILE LEBER'S SUPPORT FOR A DEFENSE PROGRAM WOULD NORMALLY BE DECISIVE, AWACS IS A SPECIAL CASE. HONEST QUESTIONS WHICH THE GERMAN UNIFORMED SERVICES HAVE ABOUT AWACS' INTERFACE WITH THE CURRENT GROUND SYSTEM, ABOUT COST SHARING, AND ABOUT PARTICIPATION BY OTHER NATO GOVERNMENTS MUST BE ANSWERED (REF B). QUESTIONS AS TO

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BONN 01543 01 OF 02 270032Z

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 01543 02 OF 02 270036Z
ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 PM-03 INR-05 CIAE-00 SP-02 L-01
ACDA-10 TRSE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 /049 W
-----270100Z 058040 /63
R 261833Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5081
INFO USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
SECDEF WASHDC
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 01543

LIMDIS

THE SYSTEM'S COST-EFFECTIVENESS AS RAISED BY VARIOUS OPPOSITION DEFENSE EXPERTS (REF C) WILL LIKEWISE HAVE TO BE ADDRESSED. IN THIS CONNECTION, THE U.S. SHOULD BE PREPARED QUICKLY TO SATISFY ANY POSSIBLE FMOD REQUESTS FOR SUPPORTIVE DATA WHICH THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT MIGHT WISH TO USE WITH THE BUNDESTAG OPPOSITION.

5. AS FOR THOSE MEMBERS OF THE BUNDESTAG LIKE KARL DAMM WHO WANT TO TIE FRG PARTICIPATION IN A NATO AWACS PROGRAM WITH A U.S. COMMITMENT CONCERNING THE LEOPARD 2 (REF D), ALL WE CAN DO IS QUIETLY AND FIRMLY POINT OUT THAT THERE IS NO LOGICAL CONNECTION BETWEEN THE TWO PROGRAMS. AT THE SAME TIME, WE MUST REALIZE THAT LEBER HIMSELF IS COMING UNDER INCREASING PRESSURE TO TIE THE TWO TOGETHER IN SOME FORM OR OTHER.

6. CONCLUSION: GENERAL SCHUENEMANN'S REMARKS SERVED TO underscore the importance of recognizing the political constraints with which minister leber is faced. they also emphasize the necessity of allowing the german confidential

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BONN 01543 02 OF 02 270036Z

GOVERNMENT ADEQUATE TIME TO GET THE PROGRAM THROUGH THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS IF WE WANT THE WEST GERMANS TO PARTICIPATE IN A NATO AWACS PROGRAM (REF E).

STOESSEL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AWACS, AIR DEFENSE, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, REGIONAL DEFENSE ORGANIZATIONS, WARNING SYSTEMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BONN01543
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770029-0014
Format: TEL
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770118/aaaaaphd.tel
Line Count: 156
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 233708d1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: 77 BONN 18767, 77 BONN 1204, 77 BONN 1308, 77 BONN 372
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29-Sep-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3500779
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NATO AEW - FRG POSITION
TAGS: MILI, OCON, GE, NATO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/233708d1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009